

DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

news release

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PAKISTAN OFFICIALS TO CONFER WITH U.S. WILDLIFE EXPERTS

Two prominent wildlife officials from Pakistan will visit the United States to study American administrative management and wildlife research techniques as part of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service/National Park Service Special Foreign Currency Program.

Abdul M. Khattak, Inspector General of Forests and Member Secretary, National Council for Conservation of Wildlife, Ministry of Agriculture, Cooperatives and Land Reforms, and S. Qadir Mohiuddin, Deputy Director, Department of Marine Fisheries, will be visiting a variety of national wildlife refuges, national parks, research installations, and universities in the Southeastern, Southwestern, and Western United States from September 10-25, 1978.

Under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, the Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Park Service have been given the authority to use excess foreign currencies accruing to the United States from the sales of surplus agricultural products for wildlife conservation projects in Egypt, Pakistan, and India. A U.S. mission to Pakistan in February 1978 learned that the main priorities developed under the Pakistan Wildlife Conservation Strategy were wildlife education and training, surveys of endangered wildlife and their habitats, and restoration and management of species and their habitats. The two Pakistani officials were invited to the United States to broaden their contacts within the conservation community and expose them to the interests and operations of governmental and non-governmental organizations in the United States.

While in the United States the Pakistani officials will be accompanied by Fish and Wildlife Service and National Park Service representatives. Their itinerary will include visits to State and Federal areas, institutions and individuals in West Virginia, Maryland, Florida, Arizona, California, Oregon, and Colorado. Also included in the tour is a visit to the Arizona-Sonora Desert Museum in Tucson, the University of Miami, and Scripps Institute, La Jolla, California.